



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/519,448	12/06/2005	Koji Kawaguchi	FEC 142NP	2403
23995	7590	04/17/2009	EXAMINER	
RABIN & Berdo, PC 1101 14TH STREET, NW SUITE 500 WASHINGTON, DC 20005				CLARK, GREGORY D
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1794				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/17/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/519,448	KAWAGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	GREGORY CLARK	1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 5-12 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 5-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/30/2004;06/15/2007;01/30/2009</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

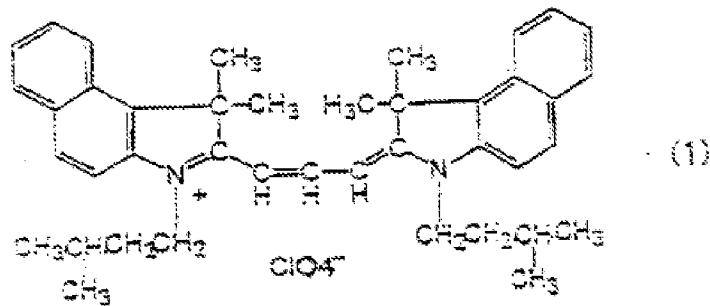
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

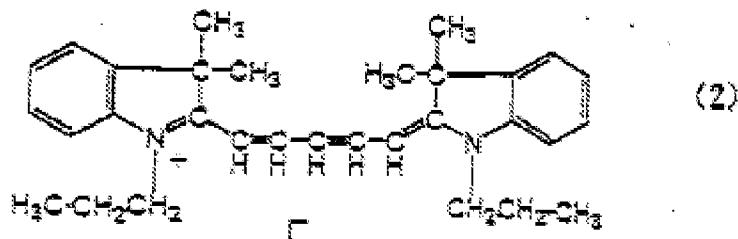
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 5-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi (GB2349388) and Namba (5,506,357).**

3. **Regarding Claims 5 and 9,** Kobayashi discloses a blue color filter containing a first colorant represented by the following structural formula (1) with a ClO_4^- anion (page 5).

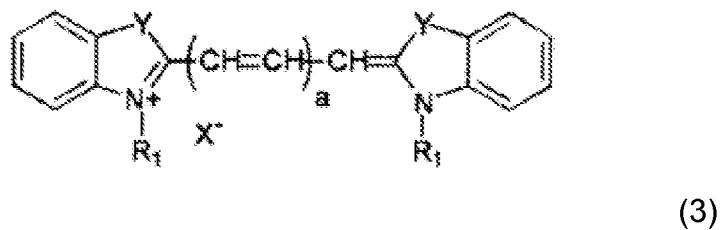


A photosensitive resin (binder resin) (page 7, paragraph 1) and a second colorant represented by the following structural formula (2) (page 6).



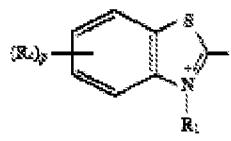
Kobayashi also indicates that when a phthalocyanine dye like formula (1) is used alone large deviations from the desired hue can be caused (page 4) and a color mixture of different dyes is selected to suppress undesirable light transmission to improve the color purity (page 5).

The second colorant claimed by the applicant (shown below, structure 3) differs from the second colorant disclosed by Kobayashi (shown above, structure 2) in that the applicant claims the Y position is substituted with sulfur or oxygen and Kobayashi discloses only alkyl substitution in the Y position.

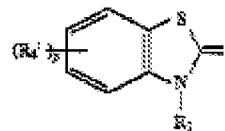


Namba discloses cyanine dyes with various substitutions in the Y position. Namba discloses that cyanine dyes are used in applications that include: silver halide photographs, dye lasers, optical recording media, and electrophotographic sensitizers (Column 1, lines 24-27).

Representative cyanine dyes are shown below:



(4)



(5)

Structures 4 and 5 shown above represent cyanine dyes with a sulfur atom substituted at the Y position as claimed by the applicant. While one may argue that Namba is from a different field of endeavor because the use of the dye is different. The examiner would disagree, because of the way a chemist works. One working in the art looks at the material that they are working with in this case Kobayashi, and then looks though the art as a whole looking for analogous dye structures (using a structure search) to see what related structures have been made. Namba clearly demonstrates that cyanine dyes with a sulfur atom in the Y position was known in the art at the time of the invention.

With a reasonable expectation of success, a person of ordinary skill in the art could readily replace the cyanine dye claimed Kobayashi with the cyanine dye disclosed by Namba since both are cyanine dyes and one would expect that they would behave in a similar fashion or to have constructed the dye taught by Kobayashi with a sulfur in the number 3 position on the ring instead of a carbon as taught by Namba since analogous dye structures have that type of substitution.

These merely involves the substitution of one cyanine dye for another. Namba shows that dyes of the claimed type were known at the time the invention was made.

Thus, evidence of similar properties or evidence of any useful properties disclosed in the prior art that would be expected to be shared by the claimed invention weighs in favor of a conclusion that the claimed invention would have been obvious.

Dillon, 919 F.2d at 697-98, 16 USPQ2d at 1905; In re Wilder, 563 F.2d 457, 461, 195 USPQ 426, 430 (CCPA 1977); In re Linter, 458 F.2d 1013, 1016, 173 USPQ 560, 562 (CCPA 1972).

Kobayashi does not mention the anions used for the second colorant. Namba discloses that generally cyanine dyes are coupled with anions such as, ClO₄⁻ (column 4, lines 7-8) which is included in the list of anions listed by the applicant.

4. **Regarding Claims 6, 8, 10, 12,** Kobayashi teaches an electroluminescent device (organic EL device) containing an organic light emitting layer (page 14) and a blue color filter (page 6). Kobayashi teaches that the layers are formed by a lamination process (page 14 and 15).

5. **Regarding Claims 7 and 11,** Kobayashi and Kamba does not mention the role of the disclosed counter ions as claimed by the applicant shown below:

- a quencher anion that fluorescence from the first colorant or the second colorant

The examiner takes the position that it is common in the art to introduce counter ions (anions) into the cationic device dye structures such that local charge neutrality (cationic dye + anion = neutral ionic dye) is preserved and the subsequent electroluminescence results in higher color purity by preventing interaction between the electroluminescence light and the cationic dye as the light passes through the color filter. The anions disclosed by Kobayashi would therefore function as quenching anions and read on the instant claim.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREGORY CLARK whose telephone number is (571)270-7087. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:00 AM to 5 PM Alternating Fri 7:30 AM to 4 PM and Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Tarazano can be reached on (571) 272-1515. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. Lawrence Tarazano/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1794

GREGORY CLARK /GDC/
Examiner
Art Unit 1794